



Patent  
249/076

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#6/C  
K Cooper  
7-29-00

In re Application of:

Charles S. Taylor, et al.

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Serial No.: 09/480,826

Filed: January 10, 2000

For: ACCESS PLATFORM FOR  
INTERNAL MAMMARY  
DISSECTION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND

NOTIFICATION OF COPIED CLAIMS FOR PROPOSED INTERFERENCE

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the subject application, please amend same as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 3, line 1, change "IMA" to -- internal mammary artery (IMA) --.

Page 11, line 1; before "eighteenth" change "a" to --an--.

Page 31, line 16, after "platform" insert --310--; line 17, after "platform" insert --310--.

OC-43144.1

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  
(37 C.F.R. §1.8a)

I hereby certify that I have a reasonable basis to expect that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

January 24, 2000  
Date of Deposit

Alexis L. Kovacs

Page 32, line 10, after "platform" insert --310--.

Page 33, line 5, after "platform" insert --310--.

Page 43, line 13, change "blades" to --blade--.

Page 46, line 18, change "715" to --714--.

Page 48, line 21, change "797" to --796--.

Page 49, line 7, after "base" change "789" to --781--.

Page 50, line 5, after the first occurrence of "carrier" insert --789--.

Page 66, line 14, change "facilitate" to --facilitates--.

#### REMARKS

Applicants submit that the amendments presented herein do not add any new matter to the subject application and, in particular, the amendments to the specification presented herein merely correct a number of typographical errors overlooked in the parent application.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.607 (c), Applicants hereby notify the Examiner that Applicants' claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 were copied verbatim from U.S. Patent No. 5,984,867, which issued on November 16, 1999 to Robert K. Deckman et al. (hereinafter "the Deckman patent"), and are identical to claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, and 10, respectively, of the Deckman patent, and that Applicants' claims 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 were substantially copied from the Deckman patent, with only minor differences in claim language, and correspond to claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 12, respectively, of the Deckman patent. Applicants added the subject claims to the subject application in order to provoke an interference between the subject application and

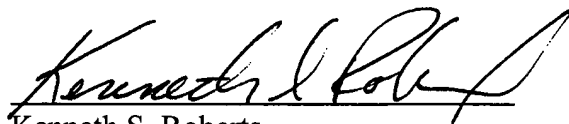
Deckman patent. A Request for Interference under 37 CFR § 1.607 is being filed on an even date herewith. Thus, entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyon & Lyon LLP  
Attorneys for Applicants

Dated: January 24, 2000

By:



Kenneth S. Roberts  
Reg. No. 38,283

KSR/alk  
633 West Fifth Street, Suite 4700  
Los Angeles, CA 90071-2066  
(949) 567-2300